NEW-ENGLAND FARMER.

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NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

APPLICATION OF MANURE.

Mr Breck—Much time, ink and paper have been expended by writers, in attempting to show the best, or most economical method of applying manure, and there is, seemingly, no less diversity of opinion on the subject now than ever. I read, with much interest, the views of your able correspondent, "L. B." upon this subject, in your last paper, and they are in perfect accordance with my own. "L. B." quotes a remark of an editor of one of the agricultural papers of your city, which not a little surprised me, viz: "*All* agree that manure does not descend." This assertion is so manifestly incorrect, that it seems hardly worth while to attempt to expose its fallacy.

That an important—perhaps the *most* important—part of manure is rendered liable to be lost to the crop by infiltration, in case it is deeply buried, is susceptible of demonstration by a simple experiment, and is well illustrated by the apt analogy named by "L. B," of the dissolution of alkali out of wood-ashes by the common process of leaching.

If any one doubts that manure, or a material portion of its virtue, *does* descend, let him fill a barrel two-thirds full with earth, and fill up with dung, pour on water sufficient to saturate the mass, and somewhat more, and see if the liquid which comes out at the bottom does not partake of the character of that which drains from the rain-drenched manure heap in the barn-yard,—and that this latter has a fertilizing effect, it is presumed none will question—not even the author of the queer remark above quoted.

So well convinced was the late Hon. Mr Garnett, of Virginia, of the loss of manure by infiltration, in case of being plowed in, that he contended—and his experience supported the opinion—that it was better to spread it on the surface without any covering, than to turn it under to the usual depth. And I verily believe that important as may be the loss by evaporation, that by infiltration is greater still.

That the water in wells, as mentioned by "L. B.," is frequently affected by a *peculiarity* of taste not very agreeable to most palates, from the proximity of the wells to vaults and stables, is proof enough of the infiltration of manures, and if one wants instances illustrative of this effect, he may (as I have heard) find any number of them within the city of Boston.

As a very general rule, I think that turning under manure—either composted, or raw dung—just deep enough to secure it against loss by evaporation, (and this can be done by the harrow,) is the most judicious application of it that can be made.

As to manuring in the hill, I can think of but two emergencies in which I would practice it myself, or recommend it to others:—these are, 1, in case I had but *little* manure to apply—and, 2, if my land was *very cold*.

The greater economy of *composting* manure, (as recommended by "L. B.,") than of applying it in an uncomposted or green state, is too apparent and too generally acknowledged, to admit of disputation, or to require argument to prove it. Indeed, it is one of those few points in processes of farming, upon which it may be said, with a vast deal nearer approximation to truth than was the remark of the editor above quoted, "*all* agree."

Yours, J. H. D.

For the N. E. Farmer.

DRESSING CROPS WITH THEIR TOPS.

Mr Breck—In your paper of Jan. 3d, 1844, I promised to keep your readers informed of a trial I was making to test the practicability of raising roots for a series of years on the same piece of ground, without deterioration, by applying the tops of the last crop to the succeeding one.

The kind that I have experimented upon, is *carrots*. I have taken three crops of the same kind in succession, from one spot. Each year, the ground was first planted with onions; rows two feet apart, and about 45 days after, carrots were planted between the rows of onions. The first year the yield was 186 bushels of carrots, and only 20 bushels of onions, owing to planting old seed. At harvest, the carrot tops were thrown into heaps, covered with dirt, and in the spring spread evenly over the surface and plowed in. The second crop was 96 bushels of onions, and 147 of carrots. This crop of carrots fell short of the first, which was attributed, mainly, to bad seed. The third year, produced 115 bushels of onions and 176 of carrots: the tops applied as before. The last crop of carrots fell short of the first 10 bushels, while the onions overrun 95. The decrease of the former may reasonably be accounted for by the increase of the latter; for if the last crop of carrots had not been incumbered with more onions than the first, I am satisfied it would have been the largest; and am now fully convinced that the application of the tops to the succeeding crop, is beneficial; and how far this rule will apply to other root crops, may be shown by a like experiment.

It is generally admitted that onions may be grown on the same piece of ground for a number of years in succession, and continue to improve; and from twenty years' experience, I am satisfied that *parsnips* will do the same; but beets and carrots have been considered to require a rotation; and this opinion was confirmed by my own experience, until I tried the efficacy of the *carrot tops*. And why will not the same course apply to beets? Will some one try it, and give the result?

The onion tops were not left on the ground where they grew; the growth of carrots being so large, it was more convenient to carry them off to top. This shows that onions may be continued, and do well, independent of the tops.

The spot of land experimented upon, contains one fourth part of an acre; and the same kind of manure, the two past seasons, has been applied, and as near the same quantity each year as could be measured, and the piece in every other respect treated alike both years.

The last crop was 291 bushels of onions and Orange carrots, equal to 1164 bushels to the acre, besides a cartload of winter squashes. Produce sold for $81 22. Expense of cultivation, including manure, seed, &c., $29 71; leaving a balance for the use of the land, of $51 51, for one year.

The design of this communication is not so much to boast of large crops, as it is to redeem a pledge made last winter, for giving the progress of the experiment with the *carrot tops*. I have other parcels of land, cultivated with summer vegetables the past season, that were more productive, in point of profit, than the one described.

Wickford, R. I., Feb. 1845. C.

☞We thank our correspondent for his communication, and would be happy to receive from him an account of any other experiments he has made, or may make, of a similar character. There are few quarter acre lots, we opine, that yield so great a profit as that of our correspondent; and if his success with that piece is a fair sample of the profit of his husbandry in general, it is desirable to have his system of cultivation made public for the benefit of others.

The question whether, by applying the tops or stalks of a crop to the land, the same crop may be grown on it without deterioration for any number of successive years, is both an interesting and an important one, and which it is desirable should be decided. It has been asserted as the result of actual experience in one case we remember to have read within a year or two, that by burying the stalks of Indian corn in the fall on the land where they grew, and planting the same crop on these decaying stalks next year, and so on, the land might be kept in corn for successive years, without any diminution in the yield. But though many conveniences might result from avoiding the rotation practice, it is questionable whether in case of corn, potatoes, and some other crops, it would be good policy to grow the same crop for successive years on the same land, as, by so doing, the insects which prey upon that particular crop, will be increased, whereas by alternating, they may most likely be got rid of.

☞A vessel arrived at this port last week, from Ichaboe, with guano. The captain reports that the deposit of the article had become nearly exhausted, and that many vessels at the island would have to leave in ballast. It has been stated that a deposit of guano had been discovered near Cape Town, in the British possessions, and that the English government had ordered a vessel of war there, to prevent the article being taken by vessels bound to other than British ports. Some of the English importers of guano have made immense profits by the trade.

☞Old Massachusetts has done her full share towards encouraging agricultural improvements. The Mass. Soc. for the Promotion of Agriculture instituted plowing matches, and the Berkshire Agricul. Society instituted cattle shows, which were the first held in the United States.

PLYMOUTH CO. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S PREMIUM LIST FOR 1845.

Improvements.

No. 1.—For the most extensive forest of any sort of trees suitable for timber, raised from the seed, not less than 1000 trees to the acre, which shall be in the most flourishing condition, and more than five years old in September, 1845, $50

No. 2.—Second premium for the same object, 30

No. 3.—Third do. do. do. 20

Claims to be made on or before the 15th of April, 1845, to Horace Collamore, of Pembroke.

No. 4,—To the person who shall on the first of September, 1845, have the largest quantity of land in the best state of preparation for English mowing, which was swamp land or fresh meadow, June 1st, 1844, 15

No. 5.—Second premium, 10

No. 6.—Third do. Colman's Report.

No. 7.—For the most accurate experiment in the use of salt on one-quarter of an acre, payable in 1845, 10

No. 8.—Second premium, 7

No. 9.—For the most satisfactory experiment in the application of compost manure to mowing fields, 15

No. 10.—Second premium, 10

No. 11.—Third do. Colman's Report.

Every applicant for either of the above premiums, must form a heap of compost in the opening of the next spring, of at least twentyfive loads. In the month of April or May, spread five loads of it even as possible on one-eighth of an acre; in July or August, five loads more on an adjoining eighth of an acre, of similar soil and condition. In each of the next three months, spread five loads more on the same quantity of land adjoining, and as nearly of the same quality as possible. In the spring of 1846, form another similar compost heap, and dress the same land again in that year as above directed for 1845.

No. 12.—To the person who shall make the greatest quantity of the most valuable compost manure, before October 1st, 1845, $10

No. 13.—Second premium, 6

No. 14.—Third do. Colman's Report.

No. 15.—To the person who shall cart on to his farm and judiciously apply it, the greatest quantity of rock and other sea weeds, 10

No. 16.—Second premium, 6

No. 17.—To the person who shall do the most effactual work with the plow or hoe in subduing bushes in pasture land, from May 1st to Oct. 1st, 1845, 10

No. 18.—Second premium, 6

No. 19.—Third do. Colman's Report.

Claims to be made to all the above offered premiums excepting numbers 1, 2, 3, 7 and 8, on or before the 15th of April, 1845, to Morrill Allen, of Pembroke.

Produce.

For the best experiment in raising wheat, on not less than one acre of land, nor less than 20 bushels, $15

For the next best experiment, 10

For the best experiment to determine at what distances the hills or drills of Indian corn should be placed, to ensure the greatest crop with the least expense of labor. Two acres of land, of as even quality as can be selected, must be plowed and manured in the same manner; the first half acre must be planted in hills three feet apart each way; the second, in drills three feet apart, and the kernel nine inches apart in the drills; the third half acre must be planted in hills, three feet six inches apart, each way; and the fourth in drills, three feet six inches apart, and the kernels in the drills one foot apart— $10

Second premium, 6

Third do. Colman's Report.

For the best experiment to prove the influence of subsoil plowing on the corn crop, 10

Second premium, 6

Take an acre of land of even quality, plow and subsoil one-half of it; the other half, plow in the usual way; manure both parts alike, plant Indian corn, and let the crop be separately harvested and weighed.

For the best experiment in raising barley, not less than 25 bushels to the acre, $8

Second premium, 6

For the best experiment in raising oats, not less than 40 bushels to the acre, 8

Second premium, 6

For greatest crop of Indian corn on an acre, 8

Second premium, 6

For the greatest quantity of white beans, raised on half an acre, not less than 15 bushels to the acre, 6

For the next do. 4

For the greatest quantity of carrots raised on not less than half an acre of land, and not less than 300 bushels to the acre, 10

For the next greatest quantity on 1-4 of an acre, 5

For the greatest quantity of onions on not less than a quarter of an acre, and not less than 75 bushels, 5

For the greatest quantity of sugar beets raised on not less than a quarter of an acre, 5

For the greatest quantity of common turnips on half an acre, not less than 300 bushels to the acre, 5

For the best crop of ruta baga, or French turnips, on half an acre, not less than 400 bushels to the acre, 5

For the best crop do. on not less than one quarter of an acre, 3

For the greatest crop of potatoes on an acre, 8

Second premium, 6

The committee are authorized to distribute 5 vols. N. E. Farmer, 5 vols. Mass. Ploughman, and 5 of the Boston Cultivator.

☞Claimants of the above premiums must make entries with the Supervisor, Morrill Allen, Pembroke, on or before the 15th of April, 1845, that he may view the land to be operated on, if judged expedient, before the cultivation commences.

A particular statement will be required of each claimant how the land is prepared for the reception of the seed, the manner in which the seed was selected and preserved, the kind and quantity used, and an account of all the dressings and harvest of the crop.

The Trustees do not intend in every case to give a premium for the greatest product, but to consider the character of soil, local advantages and inconveniences and to give reward to the person who apply labor the most judiciously and economically. The Supervisor will visit the fields once or more while the crops are growing, and at the time of harvest he will select one square rod regarded as an average of the field, see it harvested and weighed, by which the whole shall be estimated. This regulation shall apply to all Indian corn and root crops, excepting fields of mixed planting, the whole of which must be weighed. The Supervisor shall receive and lay before the Committees on Improvements and Produce, the statements of every claimant, to which he shall append such remarks as may have been suggested in his several visits, and the Committees so assisted by the Supervisor, shall recommend the award of premiums.

Stock.

For the best milch cow, not less than three years old, $10

For next best do. Colman's Report.

For the best heifer, having had a calf, 6

For the next best do. Colman's Report.

For the best heifer not having had a calf, not less than one nor more than three yrs. old, 6

For next best do. Colman's Report.

For the best bull of native or mixed breed, not less than one year old, 8

For next best do. Colman's Report.

For the best bull calf, not less than five months old, 4

For the next best do. 3

For the best heifer calf, 4

For the next best do. 3

The committee are authorized to distribute 2 vols. of the N. E. Farmer, 2 vols. of the Mass. Ploughman, and 2 of the Boston Cultivator.

Working Oxen and Steers.

For the best pair of working oxen, $9

Second do. 7

Third do. 5

Fourth do. 3

For the best pair of steers, not less than 2 nor more than 4 years old, 6

For the next best do. Colman's Report.

For the best pair of yearling steers, accustomed to the yoke, 5

For the next best do. 3

The committee are authorized to distribute 3 vols. of the N. E. Farmer, 3 vols. Mass. Ploughman, and 3 of Boston Cultivator.

[Concluded in our next.]

THE NEW HALL OF THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, &c.

The fine building which has been erected the past season by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, on the site of the old Latin School House, is rapidly approaching completion, and will soon be used for the business purposes of the Institution, being creditable as an edifice to the architect, Mr. Bond, and to the Committee who adopted his plan of arrangement. The Committee and Library Room in the rear of the basement story is now finished. The large Hall which is 90 feet in length by 31 in width, and 25 feet in heighth, lighted from the roof, will be completed and ready for occupancy by the first of May, on which day, it is in contemplation to dedicate it, with some little ceremony by a public address from a distinguished son of Massachusetts, in presence of the members of the Society and their ladies, with such other friends of the useful and beautiful science as the Hall shall be able to accommodate. If it be true that "coming events cast their shadows before," the completion and occupancy of the building will con-

stitute a new era in the history of the Society, and tend to infuse a commendable spirit of honorable emulation amongst its active and enterprising members, having the desired effect of inducing them to compete industriously for the liberal premiums which are to be offered, and for which the following sums have been appropriated as rewards to be distributed in the course of the year: To the Committee on Flowers, $400; to the Committee on Fruits, $300; for Vegetables, $150; for the Library, $150; to the Committee on designs and decorations for the Annual Exhibition in Sept. $250; making in all the liberal sum of $1250.

We rejoice that the Society has the will and the ability to dispense their awards so liberally to the encouragement of a noble science, the results of which must be *beneficial to the country*, and to individual enterprise and exertion.

The Horticultural Society now enrolls about four hundred and fifty members, viz: about 70 life members, 60 honorary members, 100 corresponding members, and 250 subscription members. It embraces all our principal nurserymen, florists, and amateur cultivators of the city and vicinity, who occupy their own suburban villas and country residences. The terms of membership are very moderate, and the admission easy. Any gentleman of good standing in society, can be admitted. Twenty dollars constitute a life membership, five dollars and an annual assessment of two dollars, a subscription membership. A favorable opportunity is now presented to all who wish to encourage the objects of the Society, to come forward and join the institution. It is the admission fee and assessment that creates the fund from which the Premiums are paid. This occasion we trust will be embraced, as we are confident there are hundreds in our midst who only need be made acquainted with the fact, to unite themselves at once to this noble institution, and encourage the active members in their laudable enterprise.—*Bost. Trans.*

CULTIVATION OF FRUIT TREES, &c.

J. Breck, Esq.—Dear Sir—At the request of a friend, the following remarks on cultivation of fruit trees, &c., were put on paper for his private use. On looking them over, I thought you might find something to extract from them, that would interest some of the readers of your valuable paper. They are at your service to use, any part, all, or none, as you may think best.

J. Lovett, 2d.

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Beverly, Jan. 1845.

Dear Sir—I almost regret my promise to you finding it much easier to cultivate for myself, than to give my views on, or describe my mode of cultivation to my friends; but having given you the promise, I will try to redeem it, in part, at least.

In setting out fruit trees, the first grand object is to have the ground well prepared to receive the roots. If not in as good condition as could be wished, I would manure highly, with good rich compost, made of rotten leaves from the forest, meadow muck or peat, one or all of these, well pulverized by freezing or drying, and mixed (if for a light, open soil,) with cow manure, unleached wood ashes, bone-dust, or lime, (oyster-shell lime preferred)—say 4 cords of peat, rotten leaves, &c., one to two cords cow manure, 20 bushels ashes, 5 bushels bone-dust, or lime,—20 cords of this compost to an acre, plowed deep and subsoiled; cultivate one year, to roots;—never allow a crop of grain taken from land, intended immediately for trees. If the soil is heavy, stable manure, lime, or charcoal, should take the place of cow manure and ashes. After the soil is well prepared, by root culture, before setting out trees, I should subsoil again, to as great a depth as the plow would run. If the soil is light, dry and open, manure may be worked down a good depth into the subsoil, by trenching, or otherwise; but if the soil is moist, resting on a subsoil of stiff clay, &c., although a great benefit would be derived in breaking up this subsoil with the plow, I believe it would be a very serious injury to enrich it by manure, unless it was so well worked, by mixing sand, vegetable mould, &c., and so thoroughly drained as to make it impossible water should remain on any portion penetrated by roots of trees or shrubs. I hold it as a rule never to be deviated from, if good fruit is the object, that no stagnant water should ever be allowed about the roots, nor the roots permitted to penetrate deeper in the soil, than the heat of the sun and air does. I rather feel under the necessity (particularly on heavy soils like my own,) of passing through a young orchard, after every heavy rain, with my shovel in hand, to cover the roots that have been washed out, than to have them so deeply covered that no freshet should leave bare any part of roots of a young tree.

Pears on pear roots, should be set from 15 to 20 feet apart in the row, and the rows 20 feet distant from each other. A row or two of dwarf pear on quinces, may be set between each row, and two trees if 20, or one if 15 feet apart, may be set between the trees in the row.

Apples should be set from 32 to 40 feet apart, each way. Rows of peach trees 10 feet distant from each other, may be set between them, if the soil is dry and suitable: if not, quince trees, or pears on quince roots, may take the place of the peach. Either would be nearly or quite done bearing, before the standard trees came into full bearing, or had attained a size sufficient to shade the whole ground. It is evident if we cultivate so closely, the soil must be well fed. For this purpose, as well as for keeping the roots warm in winter, I should, every autumn, put a good coating of rich, old compost around and between each of the trees. No fresh cow, hog, or stable manure should be used, while the trees are young; but if a person feels obliged to use fresh manure, he should by all means use the precaution not to apply it until the ground is closed up by a hard frost: the spring rains, in passing through the manure, carrying the strength down with it, will only be able to penetrate as fast as the frost leaves the ground, by which the manure will be absorbed, and its bad effect partly, if not altogether neutralized, before it reaches the roots of the trees: otherwise, it would be sure to injure them. After trees are in ful bearing, it would not be so unsafe to use stable, pig, or cow manure, unmixed, but I should at all times, prefer the compost.

In setting out trees, I always keep the top course of roots as near the surface of the ground as possible, just barely covering the top roots. A very light sandy subsoil (perhaps clear sand,) is best to come in immediate contact with the roots. In setting out trees, great care should be taken that no fresh manure comes very near the roots:—an inch or two distant, the soil may be rich, to attract the small fibrous rootlets, but no manure should be worked into the ground, within one year's growth of the roots of any young tree.

Peaches and cherries may be set from 10 to 15 feet distant each way, they require a dry, light soil. The peach grows well, and produces the finest flavored fruit, when set in clear sand, if a compost of old stable manure and rotten leaves, with wood-ashes, are put round them in the autumn, and dug in with a fork lightly every spring. Bone-dust I have found answer well around peach trees. Apples (with some few exceptions,) and plums, require a strong moist soil, and I think do best when such soil is over a clay subsoil. Pears and Quinces require a rich clay loam, to do best in: after well rooted, and of good size, will bear a very rich coat of manure annually. Currants, gooseberries, raspberries and strawberries, after well hold of the ground, will bear as liberal manuring as you may feel disposed to give them, provided they are in a moist soil, well charged with vegetable matter—both of which they require to do well. I have never trenched for the strawberry; have selected a good moist soil, manured highly with stable manure, mixed with a good sprinkling of wood-ashes in the spring; then have the ground forked or spaded over often through the summer. In August, after the drought of summer is past, I lay out in rows, 18 to 20 inches apart: then take an old plant, with all its offsets, setting them in rows, the runners or offsets, just to meet each other: by this mode, they will be thick enough the following spring to partially shade the fruit. A compost of rotten leaves (or, what I prefer instead, shumac or morocco-dressers' tan,) mixed with one bushel of wood ashes, and one bushel of fine bone-dust, to every 6 or 8 bushels of tan or leaves, this compost having been well mixed for at least a month, I now spread between the plants, covering all the stems, and just, in a seaman's phrase, leaving the plants with their heads above water. As they grow up, I keep them well supplied with this compost, or old stable manure, until the winter sets in hard; then cover them with pine boughs, straw, or sea-weed, always giving the pine boughs the preference. In spring, after the plants get well started, I give them a good sprinkling of bone-dust and wood ashes. The strawberry is a coarse feeder, and will bear a great deal of manuring.

I would never allow a crop of any thing taken from a young orchard. There will be no danger in cropping an old one: the shade will effectually prevent this. The weeds should all be kept down by frequent and light hoeings.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,

JOSIAH LOVETT, 2d.

☞No man of our acquaintance grows better fruit than Capt. Lovett; and his success is proof that the system he pursues is good. We are much indebted to him for the preceding communication. —Ed. Far.

Effects of Ashes.—Mr. Peter Crispell, of Hurley, Ulster county, informs us that he raised last year, on one acre of land, three tons twelve hundred and eighty pounds of hay, at one crop. The hay was in merchantable condition and of good quality, as will appear from the fact that it was sold at eight dollars per ton, and was all weighed on the scales. The soil where this crop grew, was a dry, loamy alluvion, and had been in grass many years. Last spring Mr. C. spread on a hundred bushels of leached ashes to the acre, which cost eight cents per bushel. The ashes increased the quantity of hay nearly one-half, and from former experiments in the use of them, it is known that their effects continue for several years.—*Alb. Cult.*

For the N. E. Farmer.

TURNIP CULTURE IN ENGLAND.

Mr Editor—I noticed the communication of your correspondent "J. H. D.," in the Farmer of Feb. 26th, on "Turnip Culture," which has induced me to present to you the following extracts, having reference to the said culture in England.

The following is from a work entitled "Outlines of a new plan for tilling and fertilizing Land," by Thomas Vaux. Published by Longman & Co., in 1840. Referring to Lord Townshend, who did so much for England, by promoting the cultivation of the turnip, Mr Vaux says: "Had Lord Townshend, at the commencement of his farming operations, expressed his opinions on the subject of turnips, although he had deducted fifty per cent., he would have been considered an enthusiast."

Again, speaking of Rainham, which is now one of the most productive spots in England, he says: "the best picture of the sterility of Rainham, in its original state, was given by a Lady, (Townshend,) who said to Mrs. Coke, that when she first came to Rainham, she saw but one blade of grass, and that two rabbits were fighting for it. However severe this witticism may be thought, her words were nearer the truth than many are aware of, since a tenant gave up his farm, for which he had paid three shillings an acre, rather than pay an advance of only two shillings."

Sir Walter Scott, in speaking of Lord Townshend, (in Quarterly Review) says—"in something less than one hundred years, the agricultural practice introduced from Hanover, has spread itself through this country, and *yields an annual return which probably exceeds the interest of the national debt.*"

The editor of the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture, (vol. i. p. 392,) in alluding to this subject, says, that "*the subsequent advantages claimed from a crop of turnips, must infinitely exceed its estimated value as fodder for cattle.*"

The author of the Catechism on the Corn Laws says, that "'Turnip Townshend" was the greatest modern benefactor to the community." p. 5.

I have long been of opinion, Mr Editor, that we have not considered the turnip to be so important a vegetable as it really is; and although our climate undoubtedly is not so well adapted to its culture, or rather so well adapted for improving the soil from its culture, as old England, yet I am full in the faith that much, very much, may be done in this respect. Although we go with railway speed into some vagaries and idealities, as well as some realities, of agriculture, and build some castles, or perhaps cottages, high in air, we are, notwithstanding, I think, *slow* to adopt many things which have been thoroughly proved and held *fast* as good in old England, and which may be, on trial, partially, if not fully, as well adapted to us: let us therefore haste to come down on to solid *turnip* ground, or rather ground which, (so far as reason is concerned,) cannot be *turned up*, while the earth on which this vegetable may grow, may be annually, biennially, or triennially, in such rotation as may be best turned over and over. In short, let us turn our hand to any thing that will best improve our soil.

I do believe, in view of the exceeding value of the turnip crop in England, in itself, and as a *fertilizer*, that proper and judiciously wise experiments in its culture in this country, must make it of great value to us, though probably not to compare with its value in England. I hope, therefore, that some one, nay that many Townshends may arise in this country, that after generations, as they shall rise, may have reason to bless their memory.

I trust that we shall see much more from scientific and practical experimentalists, in your very valuable journal, on the subject of turnip culture.

W. R. D.

For the New England Farmer.

AWARDING PREMIUMS.

It is the characteristic of "Truth" to be candid, and I immediately, as requested, read the article signed "Justitia," and am very glad to admit that it does not express the opinions advanced by "A. H. W." On the other hand, I ask of "Justitia" to be kind enough to observe that the length and breadth of my reference to the article, was based entirely upon the qualification "*if* it be in the spirit of A. H. W., *then* it is not *just*." It is dangerous to rely upon inferences, as the article before me proves.

"Justitia" assures me that he never sustained any such grievance as I surmised, that he never was an applicant for a Society's premium." I can assure him that I never made such surmise. I never for a moment thought either article written by a disappointed competitor. I simply supposed that both "Justitia" and "A. H. W." were "aggrieved" that premiums had been awarded to farms, where large expenditures had been made, and as a farm to which a premium had been given by the Mass. Agricul. Society, was named, reference was made to the duties of their committee. I thought of no other cause of grief than the assigned one, that premiums were paid to those who did not need them.

The maxim at the head of the article of "Justitia," is correct; but there is a wide field for difference as to the meaning of "*means*." Means are essential. Without means, there could be no farm, no implements, no seed, no stock. However small might be the cost of these, if they cost more than they are made to return a fair interest for, then the farm is not well managed, and deserves no premium. If they cost a very large amount, and make a very profitable return, then the farm is well managed, and does deserve a premium. It is the *pro rata*, and not the positive—the nett gain, not the gross receipt—that tests the judicious management, and this may be shown as well on a small scale as a large one, and as well on a large scale as a small one. The *amount* of capital is not important, *if there be enough to buy exactly what is required, at exactly the right time.* It is the *productiveness*, by judgment and skill. A claimant should not be rejected because he had a large capital, and a claimant for the same premium, who accomplished more in proportion to his expense if within the conditions, should receive the premium. "A. H. W.," thinks 'a sound body and a resolute determination to gain a living by a faithful observance of the original command," sufficient; but even with means, without knowledge and judgment, more strength and resolution could accomplish but little. A farmer who had lost his right arm, might arrange and divide his farm, apply his manure, adapt his cultivation to his soil, sow, mow, reap, harvest at the right time, rear the best stock, in the most judicious manner, deserve and obtain a premium, on the basis of "Truth"—but upon the principles of "A. H. W.," the premium should be paid to the toiling ditcher, whom he had directed where and how to dig. Premiums are not offered as rewards merely: they are offered, rather, as an inducement to those cultivators who *have their reward in their success*—a sort of purchase of a patent—a desire to give the *right*, by showing the *way*, to every body, with the like means to secure the like success.

TRUTH.

[We can hardly find it in our heart to recommend the practice of *caponing*, but our friend Hunt, ("the Drunkard's Friend,") as great on *poultry* as he is on *temperance*—is a humane man, and we presume would not advise any measure of an inhuman character.]

CAPONS.

Mr Editor:—The subject of *caponing* is one of interest to the community. By the usual process, many fowls are killed by the operation; and but few of our farmers are found either able or willing to practice it. I desire to communicate to you a plan unaccompanied with danger or uncertainty, even to the unskillful. A keen knife, a pair of scissors, and a needle, are the only instruments required. As soon as the young cock begins to crow, begin to fatten him. When his comb becomes blood-red, keep him from food for 24 hours. Then catch him, and tie him down on a board, by fastening his wings with straps drawn through holes for that purpose. His feet may be left loose, or if preferred, may be made fast to two uprights fixed in the board. With scissors, cut away the feathers from below the anus; then make an incision as near to the anus as can be done without cutting the rectum—let it follow the side-bones, until the hole thus made is large enough to insert the fingers, push them along down the back bone until the testicles are felt. Then put the finger over the testicle, and by bearing at its base, pull it off. Serve the other in the same way.

A little practice will enable the operator to bring the testicles out on his finger. But this is of no importance; break them loose, and if you do not get them out, being certain that you have removed them, let them remain. They will soon become absorbed, and give no trouble. Sew up the incision, being careful to take up the upper skin.

Turn the fowl loose after marking him, and he will do well. This plan has been tried with success for years, and is safe as any man could desire. One of the proprietors of one of the Virginia springs, always has on hand a supply of capons, made in this way.

I intend to try the operation upon turkeys. Why will it not succeed in improving that favorite, about "Christmas time," as well as the chicken? I will let you know the result, if it prove successful.

THOS. P. HUNT.

Wyoming, Penn., Jan. 27, 1845.

The above is from the Farmers' Cabinet, (Philadelphia.) Friend Hunt *may* take it into his head to give *us* a communication on matters pertaining to poultry—a subject which he *can* speak of from experience, as our readers may see, by reference to vol. xviii. p. 330, of this paper.

The Wilmington (N. C.) Chronicle says, that nine turpentine distilleries of that place, on on average, use up 800 barrels of turpentine, and turn out 4000 gallons of spirits of turpentine daily.

☞Cows should not be fed high about the time of calving.

EIGHTH AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE, March 4.

Hon. Levi Lincoln in the chair. Subject, *Flowing, Irrigation and Draining.*

Hon. Asa Foote, of the Senate, opened the discussion. He said the topics assigned for the evening's discussion, embraced the very interesting subject of *the relations of water to vegetable life.* Of the more minute and complicated of these relations, it would not be proper to speak here, as neither would the time permit, nor the scientific attainments of most present render it profitable. But some of these relations were too obvious not to be familiar to every one, and have a bearing upon agriculture too important to be overlooked. For instance, the entire *absence* of water, we know to be wholly incompatible with vegetable life;—with a *deficiency* of water, vegetation will languish;—with a certain *due degree* of that element, vegetable growth attains its highest perfection;—in the presence of *more* than that degree, the plant again is seen to languish—and if quite *immersed*, the plant entirely perishes, except in case of certain species to which that element is natural.

The principal question, however, of present interest, connected with this general subject, relates to the *degree* of moisture best adapted to the wants of vegetable life; on which he would not dwell, presuming that every farmer is best able to decide this point for himself, on his own premises. But there was another question of some moment, and good deal of intricacy, suggested by this subject; which was, the *fertilizing* power of water—for this element must be regarded by the agriculturist, not only as the *drink*, but also, to a greater or less extent, as the *food* of plants. We were in the habit of speaking and thinking of this element, and acting in relation to it, as though it were the *beverage alone* of plants—the simple diluent of their food; and for the most part this is doubtless its principal office, and would be its *only* office, were it always perfectly *pure*. But water, in its natural state, is *never* pure, but always impregnated, more or less, with different gases and salts, if not holding in solution the grosser particles of various earthy substances. This question will at once be seen to have an important bearing on two of the topics under consideration, to wit—*flowing* and *irrigating* lands: since the expediency of adopting either of these modes of improvement, in any given instance, must depend very much on the *quality* of the water to be employed. *Pure* water will benefit any land which is suffering for *drink;—impure* water may be properly administered to any soil which is *not thirsty*, in case it feels the want of *food*. The more impure the water, the greater, in any case, will be the propriety of its application. And he would say, further, that in no case can impure water be *misapplied*, unless applied in *excess*. In the operation of *flowing* lands, especially, he would be much influenced by the quality of the water, as he conceived the principal object to be gained by this process was, to secure the *sediment* deposited by the water. But another minor purpose might be accomplished by the same process, if performed at the proper season, though *pure* water only be employed—that was, the prevention of deep freezing, and the extracting of the frost at an earlier date in the spring than might otherwise be effected.

In *irrigating* lands, the object is two fold—to furnish moisture to the soil, and to enrich it. To effect either of these purposes, when practicable, was well worthy the attention of the farmer. He had stated at a former meeting, that he had himself derived signal advantage, the past year, from the outlay of a trifling expense in conducting upon a piece of meadow land, the wash from the highway, and from higher grounds. He would add, that within a few months, he had seen a piece of meadow land in Berkshire, of 6 or 8 acres, which, from being a mere bed of gravel, had been made to produce, annually, two tons of hay per acre, by the simple and only means of turning upon it, in the spring of the year, a common mountain stream.

But the most important of the topics now before us, was *draining*. Were his opinion asked, by what means our agriculture could be most improved, at least expense, he would answer, unhesitatingly, by *draining*. It is well for the present age, that a deep and prevailing interest is beginning to be felt on this subject. And, thanks to the utilitarian direction which science is taking in the 19th century. Chemistry, induced at last, to turn from the *bowels* to the *surface* of the earth, in quest of "the true philosopher's stone," has contributed largely to this result. Her testimony has confirmed what observation had before less clearly comprehended, that all wet lands are literally "*heavy*" and "*cold*," and comparatively worthless; and she has *convinced* the mind of these facts, by showing that the constant presence of *water* excludes the influence of *air* from the soil—that by the constant evaporation of that water, a constant reduction of temperature is effected, wholly incompatible with the healthy growth of plants—and, further, that by this exclusion of air and deprivation of heat, the process of decomposition is so effectually prevented, that whatever nutritive substances the soil embosoms, are locked up from the reach of vegetation, and left to accumulate in the forms of muck and peat.

As the first encouragement to adopt the system of draining, he would remind his brother tillers of the soil, that, in general, those lands which call the loudest for this species of improvement, are, when reclaimed, of the richest and most productive character. He examined a piece of meadow, two years ago, in Berkshire county, which, from bearing nothing but aquatic plants, had been, by thorough draining, brought to produce in a single season, as testified to under oath by several gentlemen, *six tons* of herdsgrass and clover to *the acre*. This is a great story, I admit, said Mr F., but I give it as I received it myself from the lips of the proprietor.

But there are other reasons for adopting this system. Lands thoroughly drained are tilled with much less expense, and in a more perfect manner. They can be tilled earlier in the season, and will more certainly mature their crops: less seed and fewer crops will be lost by the action of late and early frosts—the farm stock will have the benefit of a dryer surface to range over, and sweeter herbage to feed upon—and the general appearance and healthfulness of the premises, (which are not to be disregarded,) will be improved.

His experience in draining, he said, though not extensive, had been something. He began to "sink money," as some of his neighbors termed it, about ten years ago. He had been "sinking" it as fast as he conveniently could, ever since—and he was far from being satisfied that he had "sunk" enough yet! for he had found that it uniformly rose to the *surface* again, and always bearing interest. He considered it even better than "casting bread on the waters," for he found it again after a *few* days.

His first experiment was on a mucky swale, of several acres, lying very flat, always saturated, and often flooded with water, and so soft as to render it dangerous for cattle to cross it. The depth of the muck was from 1 to 3 feet, and the covering consisted of a coarse reed-like grass, which stock would never touch, except in cases of necessity. He carried a main drain, 4 feet wide at top, and deep enough to form a sufficient channel in the subsoil for the water, through the centre of this ground, and made a sufficient number of similar cross-drains to dry the whole surface. The average expense of these drains was from 25 to 30 cts. per rod. The effect was, to render the soil sufficiently firm for cattle—to run out the coarse grasses and clothe the entire surface with sweet and nutritious herbage. The money which he "sunk," in the estimation of his neighbors, but *planted*, in his *own*, sprung up at an early day, and has borne fruit abundantly ever since.

His second experiment was on a piece of strong clay loam, unfitted for cultivation by the waters which saturated the surface, in consequence of the tenacity and imperviousness of the subsoil. Upon this piece of ground, which was very conveniently situated near his house, he wished to set an orchard. He concluded to try the effect of underdraining it. He constructed, on about an acre of ground, 72 rods of underdrain, consisting of six separate drains, 24 feet apart, and each 12 rods in length. He employed *poles* for filling the bottom of the drains: cut the drains 12 inches wide at the bottom, from 30 to 36 inches in depth; placed two poles, of 6 inches diameter, at the bottom, side by side, then laid smaller ones upon these, enough to fill in all a space of at least 12 inches square; then put upon the poles a good covering of straw, and filled up with the earth which had been thrown out. The result even exceeded his expectations. The surface of that land is now dry in the spring earlier than common gravel soils, is friable and light, adapted to any species of roots or grains, and the orchard which he prepared it for, has been growing luxuriantly upon it for the last three years. The whole expense of constructing the drains, (including materials,) did not exceed 45 cents per rod. Where stones are plenty, and wood is scarce, this mode of filling drains would not be advisable; but where the reverse is true, it may be economical; and he thought that poles formed a *more efficient* drain than stones thrown in promiscuously.

The last spring, he took another piece of land, of soil similar to the last, except that it was rendered almost wholly worthless by the spreading over some two acres, of the waters of several cold springs. He sought out the heads of these springs, collected their waters in several under-drains, constructed like those in the orchard, plowed up the land, planted it with Indian corn, and had a luxuriant growth, on a piece of ground which, without the draining, could not, by possibility, have yielded any cultivated crop at all. This land, before draining, was not worth $25 per acre, for any agricultural purpose whatever: he now considered it worth at least $100.

Mr Robinson, of Webster, remarked that he had no experience of his own, but could speak of the success of a neighbor (Mr Slater) in draining, who had converted a large meadow that yielded no profit, into a very productive one. He commenced ditching it three years ago, cutting a large one through the centre, with cross ditches intersecting. He then covered 6 acres with gravel and loam, which were found in abundance near the meadow.

(Continued on next page.)

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, March 12, 1845.

AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE—Tuesday Evening, March 4.

[*Continued from the preceding page.*]

The following fall, he spread upon it 25 to 30 loads of compost to the acre, and seeded it down to grass. The summer following, he cut at two mowings, one ton per acre at each mowing, and the next year an increased crop—a portion of the meadow yielding an average of 3 tons to the acre, by actual weight: at the second mowing of the same year, about two tons were cut. The whole expense of draining, carting gravel, compost, &c, was at the rate of $80 per acre. The land, before draining, was of little value: now, it is very valuable. The owner was proceeding to bring the whole meadow into subjection and profit.

Dr. C. T. Jackson remarked, that in regard to irrigation, there could be no doubt of its beneficial effects. There was a difference in the quality of water: certain springs, as they run through the land, fertilize the soil wherever the water flows. Where the water is impregnated with the sulphate and crenate of lime, or other calcareous salts, clover is abundantly produced. Running water contains dissolved oxygen gas from atmospheric air, which is not found in that which is stagnant. Rain water contains 20 per cent. of gaseous matter, viz: oxygen, nitrogen, and carbonic acid, which contribute in producing food for plants. Stagnant water is often impregnated with pernicious substances, and destructive to vegetation, when it remains upon the ground. Sulphate of alumina or alum and copperas, or sulphate of iron, are not unfrequently found in bogs: on digging ditches, it may be observed as a dry effervescence on the soil thrown out. The water which contains these deleterious substances, may be neutralized by lime, ashes, or some other suitable corrective, when vegetation will flourish.

He had witnessed the beneficial effects of irrigation, in the town of Smithfield, R. I., where the farmers had for many years been in the practice of irrigating their lands very extensively, by carrying the water round the hills, and large crops of grass were annually taken from their slopes. Irrigation is most advantageous on slopes with a southern exposure.

In regard to top-dressing or covering bogs or meadows with gravel, it is often attended with good results, but sometimes fails: much depends on the nature of the peat and that of the top-dressing. Sandy or silicious soil, is of no use as a corrective. If it contains much mica or felspar, it is beneficial according to the quantity of those substances. Mica and felspar dissolve in peat, and as they are charged with potash and soda, a soil containing them, forms one of the cheapest dressings that can be applied to peat or bog lands. Judge Hayes, of South Berwick, finds that a covering of half an inch of micaceous subsoil, is sufficient to fertilize his meadow, so as to enable it to bear a crop of 2 tons to the acre, without any other application. Dr. J. remarked, that Levi Bartlett, Esq., of Warner, N. H., who is one of the most scientific farmers of his acquaintance, makes use of a micaceous clayey subsoil in forming his compost, and found it to be a very valuable fertilizer.

If scientific principles were kept in view by the agriculturist, it would be found highly beneficial to his interest. It is very important to know the nature of the gravel or soil to be applied to the meadow, and also of the peat or soil composing the meadow. Ashes, lime, marl, or micaceous subsoil, are all suitable to correct a peat soil charged with copperas or alum.

Mr Buckminster stated that gravel was better than sand for covering a meadow composed of a peat soil, as sand retains the moisture. He thought 4 inches a sufficient covering, and best applied in the summer;—the grass should not be mowed, but covered up, and it will be effectually destroyed. One reason why people are so loth to drain is, because they have an idea that reclaimed meadows will run out. Any land will run out, unless properly managed. If the land is drained completely, plowed and sowed to grass seed in August, it is easily kept in heart.

As to irrigation, he hoped to hear more evidence in favor of it, if more could be adduced. He did not think it would repay cost to turn pure water over uplands, to procure English hay.

Mr Gleason, of Wayland, said a neighbor of his had irrigated about two acres of land, taking the water over a low piece of ground in logs, and by that means had doubled the quantity of hay. It was fine looking, saleable hay, but he could not tell as to the quality of it. Afterwards, the logs which conveyed the water over the valley, got out of repair, and the crop of hay was not one-half the quantity as when irrigated. He had some experience in flowing. He had a piece of land of about two acres, which he flowed with good results—greatly increasing the crop of grass, without injuring the quality. He was in the habit of letting the water upon the land just before winter sets in, and let it off as fine weather came on in April. He finds gravel the best material for covering wet meadows. He had covered one lot with gravel dug out of a bank near by. It was so coarse that it was necessary to settle the large stones with a maul, the spring following: in August, grass-seed was sown: heavy burden of grass was produced where none had been cut before, and without any other dressing than the gravel: the herdsgrass grew 4 feet high. Encouraged by his success, he was induced to continue the operation, and as his gravel was hard to dig, he covered an adjoining lot with loam, the same thickness as the gravel: the result was, he did not have a quarter of the quantity of grass: moss came in, and he had made up his mind that he should use no more loam or sand.

Hon. Levi Lincoln said the facts stated by Dr. Jackson and Mr Gleason, were very important. He reclaimed a peat meadow, twenty years since. The peat was deep—perhaps 50 feet—and of such a quality that it was capable of being made into mortar like clay, and moulded as bricks, and when dried in the sun, was as hard as bricks, and made excellent fuel, making a fire almost equal to coal. But the principal object in reclaiming was, for the cultivation of grasses. He made a contract to cart upon seven acres, 1000 loads of very fine gravel and yellow loam, and now 15 or 20 years have passed, and he had never obtained a blade of grass from the lot. He had been utterly at a loss to account for the failure.

Mr Allen inquired if the land had not been burned over—remarking that he never knew a peat meadow to do well that had been burned within forty years.

Mr Lincoln replied, that his land was pared and the burning was severe—that it was on fire a number of months. He had one word to say about the process of irrigating high lands. A very large portion of his father's farm had been fertilized from the time it was reclaimed from the wilderness, by irrigation. It was high upland—at least 100 feet above the level of Worcester. It was never plowed. The trees were girdled, and as they decayed, the stumps were drawn out of the ground, 80 or 90 years ago. The water is taken from the fountain, and conducetd a mile and a half or more, and is kept constantly running over the banks of the ditches until the middle of June, when it is stopped—no manure has ever been applied: the land is as productive now as at the beginning, producing 1 1-2 ton to the acre annually; the hay of fine appearance. He would mention another experiment in irrigation, practiced by his brother Col. Lincoln, of Worcester, who owned a tract of land on the banks of Blackstone river. He purchased a right to take water from the Blackstone canal, which he brought upon a poor, light intervale, that was hardly worth mowing, and this with a small quantity of ashes applied to a portion of it, had produced since that time, for a number of years, crops of four-fold value, and instead of filling a 40 foot barn, as he formerly did, it was now difficult to stow away the hay in one 100 feet by 50. Mr L. found in his experience, that on reclaimed swale lands, it was necessary to apply an annual top dressing of compost or leached ashes, or they would run out. He had found leached ashes a good manure for them.

Dr. Jackson asked if the ashes on Mr Lincoln's meadow that he had failed to improve, was red or white?

Red, was the answer. Dr. Jackson said there was copperas in the soil. He had found chrystals of copperas in a peat soil on the land of the Shakers, in Canterbury, N. H. He said ashes or lime was the best application to correct such a soil. Dr. J. made other interesting remarks, which we are unable to report.

Hon. Morrill Allen said he professed to be a practical man, yet he liked the theoretical remarks which had been made by the last speaker: they might lead to a full knowledge of the reason why certain meadows cannot be made productive. He asked if any one could give information as to flowing cranberry meadows.

Here a discussion on cranberry meadows followed, which must be reserved for next week. Subject for next evening—*Compost Manures.*

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

Saturday, March 8, 1845.

The committee room of the new Horticultural Hall was open today, and flowers for the first time exhibited in it. The President of the Society, M. P Wilder, exhibited a magnificent new and rare Erica, var. Hartnellii: the flowers very large, beautiful, and had the appearance of having been recently varnished. Also, a new Bourbon Rose, *(Souvnir de la Malmaison)*—the flower exquisite. Each of these superb plants were in pots, and worthy the honor of being recorded as the first flowers to grace the new building.

From Wm. E. Carter, a fine plant in bloom, of *Andromedia floribunda*, a native of the Southern States; very beautiful, and highly prized in England.

From Parker Barnes, two large and magnificent plants of Azaleas, in pots, covered with a profusion of bloom; the purple and white varieties.

JOS. BRECK, *Chm'n.*

Albany Cultivator.—In alluding to this journal, we have once or twice mentioned Sanford Howard, Esq. as being its editor. This was incorrect. Luther Tucker, Esq. is both the proprietor and responsible editor. Mr Howard sustains the same relation to the paper as did the late Mr Gaylord—that of assistant editor. We make this correction in justice to Mr Tucker.

☞ We would direct attention to the advertisement of "Collegiate and Agricultural School," on the last page. Mr Hazeltine, we are assured, is well qualified for the duties he proposes to assume, and we hope the school will be established and meet with that encouragement necessary to its success, and which it deserves.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending March 9.

March, 1845.		7, A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	3	53	51	47	N. W.
Tuesday,	4	26	39	38	W.
Wednesday,	5	33	42	38	E
Thursday,	6	37	43	42	N. W.
Friday,	7	28	42	37	E.
Saturday,	8	37	40	37	N. E.
Sunday,	9	42	34	38	N. E.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, March 10, 1845.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 530 Beef Cattle, 1200 Sheep and 360 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Last week's prices were fully sustained. We quote a few Extra $5,25 a 5,50. First quality $5 a 5,25. Second quality, $4,50 a 4,75. Third quality, $4.25 a 4,50.

Sheep.—Dull. Sales from $3,50 to 5,25.

Swine.—In consequence of the limited number at market sales were quick. Lots to peddle, 4 1-2 for sows and 5 1-2 for barrows. At retail, 5 for sows and 6 for barrows.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 00 a 2 25 per bushel. Red Top 60 to 70 cents. Clover—Northern, 10 to 11c.—Southern, 8 a 9 c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $2 00 a 2 25 per bushel. Millet, 1 75 to 2 00.

GRAIN. There was a little more briskness in the market at the close, though the supplies of the week have been quite equal to the demand.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 00 00—Southern, round yellow, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, 49 a 00—do. do. white 46 a 47—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a 00—Rye, Northern, 75 a 00—do. Southern, 70 a 73—Oats, Southern, 32 a 33 — Northern do. 35 to 36—Beans, per bushel 1 50 a 1 75.—Shorts, per double bush. 32 a 33—Bran, 22 a 23.

FLOUR. There have been no sales of any great importance during the past week, and for most descriptions prices have sustained but little variation; fancy brands continue in most demand, and the stock at market is comparatively light.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. new, $4 67 a 4 75—do. wharf, $4 62 a 4 75—do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 0 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $4 62 a 0 00 — Fredericksburg, low P'd new $4 62 a 4 67—Alexandria, wharf, 4 62 a 0 00—Georgetown, $4 75 a 4 87—Extra do. 5 00 a 5 12—Richmond Canal, $4 75 a 0 00—do. City, $5 50 a 0 00—Petersburgh, City, $5 00 a 5 50—do. Country $4 62 a 4 67—Genesee, common, cash, $5 12 a 0 00 — do fancy brands $5 25 a 5 37—Ohio via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $4 75 a 4 87. Rye, $3 50 a 3 62—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 50 a 2 62.

PROVISIONS. The market fully sustains the quotations of last week, with a fair steady demand. There still continues a good demand for Butter and Cheese, and prices, particularly for the latter, are quite firm.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $8 50 a 9 00—Navy—$7 50 a 8 00.—No. 1, $6 75 a 7 00—do Prime $5 75 a 6 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $14 00 a 00 00—do Clear $13 00 a 13 50 do. Mess, $12 25 a 12 50—do Prime $10 00 a 10 25—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, shipping, 12 a 15—do store. uninspected, 11 a 12—do dairy, 15 cts. a 18—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 7 a 7½—do South and Western, 6½ a 7— Hams, Boston, 8½ a 9 — Southern and Western, 8 a 9—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 5 a 7—do new milk, 7½ a 8.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

We have no change to notice in this article; sales continue to be made in moderate quantities, at recent reported rates.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 45 a 48 c.—American full blood, do 40 a 42—Do. 3-4 do 37 a 38—Do. 1-2 do 35 a 36—1-4 and common do 32 a 35 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 22— Do. unwashed, 10 a 15 — Bengasi do 6 a 12—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 14—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 38 a 40—No. 1 do. do. do. 33 a 35—No. 2 do do do 23 a 30—No. 3 do do do 14 a 18.

Nothing doing this week, and former quotations are continued.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

1st sort Mass. 1843, lb. 13 a 14 ; 2d do 0 a 0.

HAY, 16 to 18 per ton—Eastern Screwed $12 to 13.

EGGS, 15 to 20.

Country Seat and Farm for sale.

On THURSDAY, March 20, at 3 o'clock, P. M. at Public Auction—on the Premises,

The Elm Farm, about two miles from Chelsea Ferry, or four from Boston State House, and on the road to Malden. It is on a fine swell of land in view of Chelsea and Nahant Beach, and on the opposite side of the road of the "Yeaman" Farm, containing over 100 acres of land, in a high state of cultivation; a beautiful grove, containing about 20 acres of woodland, near the house, (the wood on the Farm is supposed to be worth between one and two thousand dollars,) with good stone walls around and partitioning the fields of the Farm. Also, several fine springs, and water in all the fields; fruits of all kinds and very choice; the Peaches and Strawberries are better than generally met with. The House is in good order, containing ten rooms, with a good cellar under the same and water in the outer kitchen. There is a large new Barn and Shed, together with other buildings that are generally found on high cultivated Farms. The place is now occupied by John Mills, as a Milk and Vegetable Farm. Sale positive and terms liberal.

F. E. WHITE, Auctioneer.

March 12, 1845. 2w.

Farm for sale.

A small Farm in Framingham Village, consisting of from 6 to 10 acres of land, as may be desired; with a good two story Dwelling House, Out Buildings, Barn, &c., and is stocked with a great variety of the choicest kind of Apple, Pear, Plum, Peach, Quince and Cherry Trees, most of them in bearing. Also, Strawberries, Raspberries, Currants, Grape Vines, &c.

The location is one of the pleasantest and most desirable in the Village. If desired the premises would be exchanged for real estate in Boston.

For terms &c., apply to Charles D. Meriam, on the premises, Eliphalet Wheeler, Framingham, or Francis Jackson, 27 State street, Boston.

March 12, 1845.

CAMBRIDGEPORT NURSERY.

COLUMBIA STREET.

SAMUEL POND, *Nurseryman, Cambridgeport, Mass.*, has for sale a choice assortment of FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ROOTS AND VINES. Among them are the best varieties of Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, Peach, Apricot, Grapevines, Asparagus, Rhubarb, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Pear Stocks, Apple Stocks, Plum do., Cherry do. &c. Also, 500 Pears and Plums of extraardinary size, many of them have borne fruit.

Trees of an extraordinary size always on hand, and will be delivered to any part of the city FREE OF EXPENSE.

Orders left at the Nursery, will be promptly attended to, and carefully packed to go with safety to any part of the country.

March 11, 1845.

FOR SALE.

The subscriber offers for sale a two story House, Barn, and all other necessary out buildings in thorough repair, together with twenty acres or more of excellent Land, suitably divided into Mowing, Tillage and Pasture, on which there are a great variety of choice Fruit Trees, &c., situated in the south part of Pepperell, on the county road leading from Boston to Keene,—and within thirty minutes ride from the contemplated Rail Road from Worcester to Nashua. Any person wishing to purchase a delightful country residence, will do well to examine the premises. Terms will be liberal and payment made easy. For further particulars reference is made to Mr. Joseph Breck.

F. A. WALTON.

Pepperell, March 5, 1845.

RHODODENDRON PLANTS.

The subscriber will supply Plants of Rhododendron Maximum, from 25 to 50 cents per root, according to size. The Plants will be taken up with balls of earth upon their roots. Orders left at the Seed Store of Joseph Breck & Co. will meet with prompt attention. ELIAKIM MORSE.

Mefield, March 11, 1845.

BEMENT'S AMERICAN POULTERERS' COMPANION.

The American Poulterer's Companion — A Practical Treatise on the Breeding, Rearing, Fattening and General Management of the various species of Domestic Poultry, with Illustrations and Portraits of Fowls taken from life. By C. N. Bement, Albany. Published by Saxton & Miles, New York. For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.—Price $1 25.

SCIONS FOR GRAFTING.

The subscribers are prepared to furnish Scions of Apples, Pears, Plums and Cherries of almost any varieties, provided a few days notice is given. They have on hand the following Apple Scions:—

Baldwin, R. Russetting, Greening, Spitzenburg, Porter, Old Nonsuch, Hubbardston Nonsuch, Red Astrachan, Butterfield (a beautiful winter,) Newton Pippin, Yellow Bell Flower, Gardener Sweet, Blanchard's Winter (new and fine,) Adams' Winter (new and fine,) Striped Sweet (fine Fall,) Scraper (very fine large Fall variety,) Fameuse, Jewett's Fine Red, Lyscom, Porter, Corse's Favorite, with other fine sorts. Price for Apples 25 cents per dozen, or $1,50 per hundred.

Pears, Plums and Cherries, 50 cents per dozen; extra fine charged for rare varieties.

A liberal discount made when 500 or more is taken.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, March 12, 1845.

GARDEN SEEDS FOR HOT BEDS.

J. BRECK & CO. have a great variety of fine Cauliflower, Brocoli, Cabbage, Sweet Marjorim, Thyme, Sage, &c., for sowing in hot beds. Also, a large assortment of FLOWER SEEDS, comprising many rare and beautiful new varieties, of Greenhouse and hardy annuals and perennials, from 6 to 25 cents per paper.

Boxes assortments of 20 fine varieties for -	$1 00
do 50 do. - -	2 00
Boxes containing 12 fine varieties of German ten week stocks, - -	62½
Do do 12 fine var. German Larkspurs	62½
Do do 10 var. fine double Hollyhocks,	50
Do do 10 var. do. German Asters,	50

Also, Lupins, Sweet Peas, Double Balsam, Zinnias, Didiscus Phlox Drummondi, &c. &c.

Feb. 25.

Farm for sale in Medfield, Norfolk Co., Mass.

For sale, the Farm formerly owned and occupied by Capt. William Peters, deceased. Said Farm is pleasantly situated upon the Main road from Boston to Hartford, and is passed by several stages, daily, one of which is connected with the Dedham Branch Rail Road.

The Homestead comprises about 65 acres of the most valuable land, well watered and fenced, with a large number of fruit trees upon it, of different sorts and in full bearing. There are two dwelling houses; one large and commodious, was built in the most thorough manner in 1817, and the other is situated nearly opposite the former, surrounded by a fine garden and fruit trees, and is convenient and in good repair. The barns and out buildings are convenient and in good order.

Also, twenty acres of excellent pasture and meadow land, with a large orchard in full bearing, situated about two miles distant from the homestead, on the road to North Wrentham.

Possession given first April. Apply at the homestead, to

CHARLES C. SEWALL.

Medfield, Feb. 11, 1845.

HOWARD'S PREMIUM SUBSOIL PLOWS.

The subsoil Plow is unquestionably the most important agricultural implement of modern invention. It is considered by the best informed practical farmers of Great Britain and our own country, as an indispensable article in the most profitable husbandry. Says that eminently skilful and intelligent agriculturist, Mr. Phinney, of Lexington: "such is the estimate in which I hold this important implement, that I should consider it a great piece of improvidence to put in a crop without first subsoiling the ground." The subsoil Plows manufactured by Mr. Howard, are of two sizes—the smaller obtained the highest premium offered by the State Agricultural Society at its late exhibition at Worcester. The committee to award the premium on Subsoil Plows, in their report say:—"The committee were pleased with the neatness and firmness of structure of these Plows—characteristics which have distinguished all the Plows of Mr. Howard that have come within their observation. *Utility* and not *show*, are their peculiar features. * * They were astonished to find with what ease and perfection the hard pan could be stirred, and broken to the depth and width of 8 or 9 inches, for such was the operation of the medium size Plows, with a power not exceeding that ordinarily required for moving a surface Plow at the same depth—and they found the Plow might be guided with less labor and fatigue than the surface Plow. * * They confidently recommend the subsoil Plow to the attention of the farmers of the Commonwealth."

The improvement in the length of the handles of Mr. Howard's Plows, suggested by the committee, has been made—and the undersigned are now prepared to furnish these invaluable implements wholesale and retail.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 & 52, North Market Street, Boston.

Dec. 18, 1844. tf.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EXTRACTS FROM "A BOOKE OF THE ARTE AND MANER HOW TO PLANT AND GRAFFE," &c. London: 1575.

(Continued.)

Tymes of Graffing.

It is good to graffe one or two dayes before the change of the Moone, and no more; for looke, so many more dayes as ye shall graffe before them, so many more yeares it wyll be, ere your trees shall bring fruite. The best sygnes are, Taurus, Virgo, and Capricorne.

To haue Peares betymes.

For to haue the Peare of Anguisse, or Permain, or Satigle, (which be of certaine places so called,) a monthe or two before others, (the which shall endure and be good vntyl the newe come againe,) ye shall graffe them vpon a Quince tree, and lykewise vpon the franke Mulbery tree.

Howve to couer the heade of your Stocke.

When as ye haue set in your graffes, ye must then couer it well about with good tough clay and mosse, and then ye must enuyron or compasse your heade with small thorny bushes, and bind them fast thereon all about, for feare of great byrdes, and lykewise the winde.

Howve ye ought to set your trees in the holes.

When as ye sette the trees in the holes, in placing the rootes, see that they all take downwardes, and ye must not set them to deepe in the earthe, but as ye shall see cause. It shall be sufficient for them to be set so that the earth be aboue all the rootes halfe a foote or more, if the place be not very burning and stonie.

If Peach trees be troubled vvith vvormes.

If any Peach tree be troubled with wormes, ye shall take two partes of Cowe pisse, with one parte of Vyneger, and washe his rootes and sprinkle his braunches therewith, and it wyl kyl the wormes. This may ye doe vnto all other trees for the same.

If a tree be long vvithout fruite.

Ye shall vncouer his roote and make a hole with a piercer or small awger, in the greatest roote he hath, (without pearcing thorowe the roote,) then put in a pinne of drye wood, (as Oke or Ashe,) and so let it remayne in the sayd hole, and stoppe it close agayne with waxe, and then couer him againe, and he shall beare the same yeare.

For to haue Peaches tvvo monthes before other.

Take the cions of a Peach tree that doth soone blossome in the spring tyme vpon a franke [meaning thrifty] Mulbery tree, and he shall bring Peaches two monthes before others.

To collour Apples.

Ye shall bore sloping a hole with an awger, in the body of the tree, vnto the middes thereof, or thereabouts, and then looke what colour ye wyll haue them of; then ye shall take water and mingle your colour therewith, and pour it into the hole, and stoppe it vp with a short pinne, made of the woode of the same tree, and waxe it round about: ye may mingle with the sayd colour what spice ye lyst, and thus may ye change the colour and taste of any apple.

To make Apples fall from the Tree.

If ye put fiery coles vnder an Apple tree, and then cast of the powder of brimstone thereon, and the fume thereof ascend vp, and touch any Apple that is wet, that Apple shall fall certaynlye.

Of Trees that bear Bitter Fruite.

Such trees as beare bytter fruite, to make them bring sweeter, ye shall vncouer all the rootes in January, and take out all that earthe; then put vnto them of Hogs doong great plentie, and then couer agayne with good earthe, and theyr fruite shall haue a sweeter taste.

Of Mosse on the Tree.

When ye see your trees begin to ware mosse, ye must in the Winter vncouer the rootes, and put vnto them good fat earthe: for the barrennesse of the grounde, and the earthe not styrred aboue the roote, is one cause of mossynesse.

To haue Peaches vvithout Stones.

Ye shall take the graffes of Peaches, and graffe them vpon the Willowe stocke, and so shall your Peaches be without stones.

To make Grapes large.

There is vpon or by euery cluster of grapes, a small Cion lyke a pigges tayle, turning about, which doth take away the sappe from the grape: if ye pinch it off hard by the stocke, your fruite shall be the greater.

To cherrishe Apple trees.

If ye wyll throw (in Winter) all about your Apple trees on the rootes thereof, the vrine of olde men, or stale pisse long kept, they shall bring fruite much better.

Of Good Earth.

Ye shall vnderstand that of good earth, comonly commeth good fruite. Otherwyse the fruite shall not come to proofe, nor yet haue a good taste.

To digge vvell about the rootes.

Ye must digge well the earth all round ouer the rootes, and more oftner, if it be drye.

COLLEGIATE AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL.

The subscriber, having had occasion to observe from his own experience in teaching, that too little attention is generally paid to the physical education of youth, while their minds are employed in study, and also in view of the demand there is for an Agricultural School, proposes to establish a BOARDING SCHOOL FOR LADS, IN WESTBORO', Mass., to commence on the FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF APRIL NEXT, with a course of instruction designed to secure equal attention to the physical, social, mental and moral discipline of his pupils. The tilling of the earth will, therefore, form a part of the course of instruction, and a distinctive feature of the school, as tending of itself, more than any thing else, not only to secure to the pupils a vigorous constitution, but also—especially by the cultivation of Fruits and Flowers - to soften their manners, to refine their taste, to invigorate their minds, and to render them more susceptible of moral impressions.

It is not designed to make this a manual-labor school, as this term is generally understood; nor is it intended that the rural labor which will be required from all the pupils, shall have reference directly to a preparation for agricultural pursuits. The pupils will be prepared for college or for agricultural or commercial pursuits, according as parents may desire. For those pupils whose destination in life may be the pursuit of Agriculture, a thorough course of instruction will be adopted in BOTANY, MINERALOGY, GEOLOGY and AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY; and these sciences will be illustrated by experiments with a chemical and philosophical apparatus, with which the school is provided.

The regulations for government and discipline will be strict, and yet such as would be adopted in every well regulated family. No pupil of vicious habits will be allowed to remain in the family.

The number of pupils will be limited to twentyfive. Expenses:—For Board, Room, Washing, Lights, Fuel, and Tuition in the Collegiate and Commercial department the annual charge will be $150: but for those who take the scientific course in the Agricultural department, and who have the benefit of lectures and experiments, the charge will be $2· 0 per annum.

C. G. HAZELTINE, M. A. Principal.

Reference is made to the following gentlemen:—President HOPKINS, Williams College: REV. DORUS CLARKE; Messrs JOSEPH BRECK, CHAS. G. GREENE, and GEORGE DENNY, Boston.

Westboro', March 4, 1845.

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

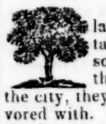
1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.



JOSEPH BRECK & CO. have for sale a large assortment of choice Fruit and Ornamental Trees, which they offer to the public at reasonable rates; as they are agents for many of the best nurseries and gardens in the vicinity of the city, they can execute any order that they may be favored with. From their own nurseries they can furnish the best varieties of Apple, Pear, Cherry, Plum, Peach, Apricot, Nectarine, Grape, Gooseberry, Currant, &c. Also, Ornamental Plants of every description.

March 11, 1845.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS.

A few cases of superior Horticultural Tools, for gentlemen or ladies' use For sale by JOS. BRECK & CO.
51 and 52 North Market Street.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS,
21 SCHOOL STREET.